

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Argentina

DATE DISTR. 3 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Possible Change in Argentine Immigration Policy

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A
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1. A new immigration policy is under consideration by Argentine authorities which would place a ban on the immigration of nationals of the Baltic countries, Rumania, and Hungary, as well as of all Slavs.* The new policy, however, will permit and encourage immigration from western Germany.
2. A possible result of this policy would be the replacement of Pablo Diana as general director of immigration by an army colonel who is as yet unidentified.** Branko Benzon, Count Gino Monti de Valsassina and Ciril Cudina, who have been active in Slav immigration matters, are reported to be considerably alarmed over Diana's possible replacement. Benzon, who is employed by the Argentine immigration department, exerts a great deal of influence over Diana on Croat immigration matters and is working closely with Father Stjepan Draicanovich, the Croat priest who has been actively pushing Croat immigration to Argentina. If the new immigration policy is put into effect and Diana is ousted, it is believed that Benzon would lose much of his present influence over Argentine immigration with regard to Slavs.

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* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. As previously reported in ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 25X1A a ban is now being imposed by Argentine authorities on the immigration of Slav displaced persons to Argentina.

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** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The press has reported that Colonel Enrique P. Gonzalez has been appointed the general director of immigration in Argentina.

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Next Review Date: 2008

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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